CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT

CD/1126
17 February 1992

ENGLISH
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LETTER DATED 7 FEBRUARY 1992 FROM THE HEADS OF THE DELEGATIONS OF ARGENTINA, BRAZIL AND CHILE ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT TRANSMITTING THE TEXT OF THE JOINT DECLARATION ON THE COMPLETE PROHIBITION OF CHEMICAL AND BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS, "THE MENDOZA AGREEMENT"

We have the honour to transmit to you the text of the Joint Declaration on the Complete Prohibition of Chemical and Biological Weapons, known as the "Mendoza Agreement", signed by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Argentina, Brazil and Chile in Mendoza, Argentina, on 5 September 1991, to which the Republics of Bolivia, Paraguay and Uruguay have acceded.

We should be very grateful if you, Sir, in accordance with the established practice, would arrange for this text to be issued as an official document of the Conference on Disarmament and distributed to all delegations, including those of the member States and States with observer status.

(Signed) Roberto García Moritán
Ambassador
Special Mission of the
Argentine Republic
on Disarmament

(Signed) Celso L.N. Amorim
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
of Brazil

(Signed) Ernesto Tironi Barrios
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
of Chile

GE.92-60328/3018H

JOINT DECLARATION ON THE COMPLETE PROHIBITION OF CHEMICAL AND BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS

MENDOZA AGREEMENT

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHILE,
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE ARGENTINE REPUBLIC AND
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FEDERATIVE REPUBLIC OF BRAZIL,

CONVINCED THAT THE COMPLETE BANNING OF CHEMICAL AND BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS WILL CONTRIBUTE TO THE STRENGTHENING OF THE SECURITY OF ALL STATES,

DETERMINED TO CONSOLIDATE THE REGION AS AN AREA OF PEACE AND COOPERATION FREE FROM THE SCOURGE OF THESE WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION,

CONFIRMING THE RESPECTIVE UNILATERAL DECLARATIONS ON NON-POSSESSION OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS OPPORTUNELY MADE BY THE THREE COUNTRIES,

AGREEING ON THE NEED TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF SUCH WEAPONS THROUGH A MULTILATERAL CONVENTION CURRENTLY UNDER NEGOTIATION AT THE DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE WHICH WILL COMPLETELY PROHIBIT CHEMICAL WEAPONS AND THEIR PRODUCTION INSTALLATIONS, AND URGING ALL STATES PRODUCING OR POSSESSING SUCH WEAPONS TO ACCEDE TO IT,

CONTRIBUTING TO THE CONFIDENCE-BUILDING MEASURES DECIDED ON BY THE STATES PARTIES TO THE 1972 CONVENTION ON THE PROHIBITION OF THE DEVELOPMENT, PRODUCTION AND STOCKPILING OF BACTERIOLOGICAL (BIOLOGICAL) AND TOXIN WEAPONS AND ON THEIR DESTRUCTION, WHOSE THIRD REVIEW CONFERENCE IS TO BE HELD IN GENEVA FROM 9 TO 27 SEPTEMBER NEXT,

HEREBY DECLARE THE FOLLOWING:

1. THEIR FULL UNDERTAKING NOT TO DEVELOP, NOT TO PRODUCE, NOT TO ACQUIRE IN ANY WAY, NOT TO STOCKPILE OR RETAIN, NOT TO TRANSFER DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY, AND NOT TO USE CHEMICAL OR BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS;

2. UNTIL THE FUTURE CONVENTION ON CHEMICAL WEAPONS ENTERS INTO FORCE, THEY DECLARE THEIR DETERMINATION TO STUDY IN ADVANCE AND JOINTLY ANALYSE ALL MECHANISMS NECESSARY TO ENSURE FULFILMENT OF THE UNDERTAKING MADE;

3. UNTIL SUCH TIME AS THE ABOVE-MENTIONED CONVENTION ENTERS INTO FORCE, AND IN CONFORMITY WITH INTERNATIONAL LAW, THEIR INTENTION TO ESTABLISH IN THEIR RESPECTIVE COUNTRIES THE APPROPRIATE INSPECTION MECHANISMS FOR THOSE SUBSTANCES DEFINED AS PRECURSORS OF CHEMICAL WARFARE AGENTS;

4. THEIR DETERMINATION TO COOPERATE CLOSELY IN ORDER TO FACILITATE THE CONCLUSION OF A MULTILATERAL CONVENTION ON THE PROHIBITION OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS AND TO SIGN IT SIMULTANEOUSLY AS ORIGINAL PARTIES;

5. THEIR RIGHT TO USE ALL PEACEFUL CHEMICAL AND BIOLOGICAL APPLICATIONS FOR THE ECONOMIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT AND FOR THE WELFARE OF THEIR PEOPLES;

6. THEIR CONVICTION THAT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION WILL CREATE AMONG THE STATES PARTIES A FRAMEWORK OF MUTUAL TRUST WHICH WILL MAKE IT POSSIBLE SUBSTANTIALLY TO INCREASE INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN THE EXCHANGE OF, INTER ALIA, CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES AND RELATED EQUIPMENT AND TECHNOLOGIES;

7. THEIR INTENTION TO MAKE A DECISIVE CONTRIBUTION TO THE SUCCESS OF THE THIRD REVIEW CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON THE PROHIBITION OF BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS AND THEIR WILLINGNESS TO CONSIDER WAYS OF STRENGTHENING ITS VERIFICATION MECHANISMS;

8. THEIR HOPE THAT OTHER STATES OF THE REGION WILL ACCEDE TO THE PRESENT AGREEMENT.

SIGNED IN MENDOZA (ARGENTINA) ON 5 SEPTEMBER 1991.

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
REPUBLIC OF CHILE

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
ARGENTINE REPUBLIC

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FEDERATIVE
REPUBLIC OF BRAZIL